

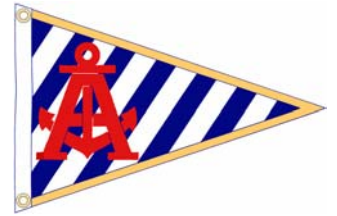
Official newsletter of the
Atlanta Sail and Power Squadron

www.usps-atlanta.org



WATERLOG

United States Power Squadrons



**The Auxiliary holds
its Final Meeting**

Danger Circles

2007 Photo Gallery

2008 Bridge and Excomm

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The Waterlog

The *Waterlog* is published at least 6 times per year along with an abbreviated companion the *Watertwig*.

It is published by and for the squadron members by the staff of the Squadron Secretary and is mailed to the listed address of all current members and advertisers.



All members in good standing, and approved non-member advertisers may submit articles and items for publication. They receive no gratuity.

The editor reserves the right to revise, change or reject any materials submitted to the *Waterlog*, consistent with standards of accuracy, fairness, good taste and available space, subject to the approval of the Squadron Commander.

Please send comments and suggestions to:-

Lt. Lisa Herndon, AP
Lt./C David Herndon, AP

Cover photo by Kevin Schoonover—Turtle Cove Marina—Turks and Cacos

Commander's Corner



Cdr. Frank Taylor, P

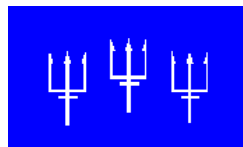
It is that Holiday time of year again!! The really nice thing about this time of year is that no matter what your religion or where you came from, this always seems to be the time of year when we reflect on our blessings and do something to help those who are in need.

I am proud to be a part of a group of individuals who have not forgotten the significance of sharing our blessings with others. Each holiday season for the past several years, the Atlanta Sail and Power Squadron has taken up a charitable cause. Each year, we have done a great job sponsoring a family or supporting a charity. This year is no different. Tim Tyson has found us another great opportunity to have a positive effect in our community. As a result, we are sponsoring The Calvary Children's Home in Powder Springs. Calvary serves as a home to 26 kids ranging in age from 4 to 20 that we will be helping provide gifts for.

As I reflect on the blessing that I have, I realize that there are many. I have family and friends. I am able to enjoy participating in my favorite activity (that would be boating, of course) on a regular basis. I have good health and a comfortable home. I imagine that most, if not all, of us have the same things or more to be thankful for. Why not use that as an excuse to give back a little. I'm sure Tim would love to hear how you could help. If you are interested, there is a children's wish list on our site at http://www.usps-atlanta.org/PagesForms/GMM12a_Form.htm. You can also find Tim's contact information there too.

We wish you all a Happy Holiday with your families and friends and we look forward to seeing you at the Holiday Party.

Frank



Squadron Happenings

GOVERNOR'S BOATING ADVISORY COUNCIL

Governor Sonny Purdue has established an Citizen Advisory Council to address boating issues. The purpose of Council is:

- To address issues of Safe Boating Practices, Boating Education, Boating Registration and Licensing, Boating Resource User Conflicts, Statutory Authorities, and other Boating Safety Issues. The Council will not address issues of Dredging, Commercial Fishing Regulations and Navigable Streams.

The Council will meet as necessary to address issues and concerns of safe boating practices in Georgia. They plan to have a final report ready for governor by January 01, 2010.

P/C Ed Troncalli has been asked to serve on this important and prestigious council. Ed will ably represent ASPS, and will keep the squadron advised of its activities. Congratulations Ed!

AUXILIARY HOLDS FINAL MEETING

The Atlanta Sail and Power Squadron Auxiliary held its final meeting over lunch on December 3, having decided to disband after the 2007 season, ending 53 years of service and support to the Atlanta Squadron. The Atlanta Auxiliary has been one of 17 separate auxiliary organizations in the United States Power Squadron, having been formed originally for the spouses of members when only men were allowed membership. The Atlanta Auxiliary was formed in 1954.



The Atlanta Sail and Power Squadron Auxiliary was formed in 1954 and has been one of the last national active Auxiliaries.

For a significant part of its long history, the Atlanta Auxiliary has had both men and women as members. They have provided support to the Squadron in many of its activities, including the annual Chili Cook-Off and decorating for annual events. In addition, the Auxiliary has offered wonderful opportunities for those members that enjoyed dining together between membership meetings, and those who may not have been able to participate in nighttime or on-the-

water events, but enjoyed staying involved and in touch. Thanks to First Officer Nancy Leathers, Treasurer Ruth Bruhns and Secretary Norma Van Norstrand for their leadership and to all of the members for their support through the years.

SEE YOU AT THE SEAFARER'S BALL!

This year's elegant gala will feature superb food, a silent auction, door prizes, dancing to great music provided by a disk jockey, and, most importantly, the companionship of great friends. The party will be on **Saturday, December 22**, at Kurt's Restaurant, 4225 River Green Parkway in Duluth. This is a change from the date listed in the 2007 Roster. Cocktails (cash bar) and appetizers will be served at 1800 hours and a seated dinner will begin at 1930 hours. Dress is coat and tie or Uniform "A" with bow tie for men and festive or party attire for women. There will be dancing to music provided by DJ Jeff, lots of items available at the silent auction.

RSVP's are due by DECEMBER 17 to Genie Troncalli. The cost is \$50 per person and must be paid to Sheryl LaBoda in advance—**PAYMENT WILL NOT BE TAKEN AT THE DOOR THIS YEAR.**



The Squadron also contributes to a worthy cause as a part of its holiday celebration. This year we are supporting the Children's Calvary Home in Powder Springs. Since the holiday party is later in the month than usual, please help ahead of time. Log on to the ASPS website to select a child and the gift that the child is hoping to receive; or you can call Tim Tyson to inquire about the gifts that are needed. There is also a need for monetary donations to help purchase gift cards or larger items such as clothes. If you wish to make a monetary donation, please bring cash or write a check out to Tim Tyson. Bring the gifts and/or money to the Seafarer's Ball.

This event is one of the highlights of the season and provides an opportunity to see fellow squadron members in something besides a bathing suit! This year you'll have the added entertainment of the ASPS singers and the swinging dancers showing what they've learned in their dance lessons! Come join an evening of festivities and holiday merriment!

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Fred and Barbara Bishop with their son and daughter Brad and Ashley

Kevin "Kip" Peterson

P/C James Wolfe

Tim and Teresa Gaffney

Please help these new members get involved and give them our best ASPS hospitality!

Squadron Happenings

FAVORITES FROM THE FILES

A year in remembrance with pictures that were not published earlier in the Waterlog... thanks to all who contributed pictures throughout the year!



???DECEMBER PUZZLER ???

How well do you know your sound signals? When overtaking a vessel in U.S. and Canada inland waters:

A. One short (one second blast) means:

B. Two short blasts mean:

The vessel to be overtaken must indicate agreement with the same sound signal, that is one or two short blasts. If in doubt, the danger signal of _____ blasts is given.

Squadron Happenings

GET INVOLVED IN SQUADRON COMMITTEES

The best way to get to know your fellow squadron members is to join a committee and get involved in the activities and support of the squadron. Here are a lot of opportunities to use your skills leader or as a member of a committee to make a difference to our squadron. 2008 Committee chairpersons will be:

Boat Shows	Glen LaBoda
Safety	Charlie Cox
Marketing/Squadron Publications	Lisa Herndon
Membership	Sheryl Laboda
Membership involvement	Genie Troncalli
Cruising	Doug Watson
Local On-the-Water	Tom Haas
Vessel Safety	Jim Jordan
Public Relations	to be confirmed
Social Events	to be confirmed
Port Captains	open
Operations Training	Margaret Sherrod/Jeff Wise
Calling Committee (7)	open

All of these committees need help from interested members. This is really where it all happens and is an opportunity to help your squadron be SMART, SAFE and FUN.

EDUCATION OFFICER UPDATE

Submitted by Patti Price

It has been a busy fall session this year. Advanced Piloting (AP), Junior Navigation (JN) and Sail classes are in their final stages. The 2007 Seamanship class has seven new graduates; Dennis and Pam Ard, Julia Haas, Chad Kuhlman, Bill McGee, Ken Smith and Barbara Tyson. Congratulations to all!

Winter/Spring 2008 classes start January 7th. Be ready to assist in the preparation of the next ASPS on-the-water event; take **Cruise Planning!** If you want to help the skipper keep on track and navigate the course; **Piloting** is the class for you. **Marine Electronics** will allow you to keep all those GPS, plot charters, batteries, etc. in top notch condition. Sign up today to continue your boating education. **ChartSmart** will begin on January 14th after the Atlanta Boat Show.

FALL CRUISERS ENJOY MILD WEATHER

Submitted by Carol Jordan

With crisp fall air, clear blue skies and still enough water in Lake Lanier to float our boats, the Atlanta Sail and Power Squadron began their annual Fall Leaf Cruise on Sat., November 10. With some fortuitous planning and a lot of cooperation from Mother Nature, the leaves were just about to peak with their beautiful fall colors. It was a perfect day for this event. Seventeen members, guests and 2 dogs cruised from a rendezvous point near Port Royal marina

north to Clarks Bridge. There we rafted up 6 boats and enjoyed doing what we do best: eating, visiting, eating, sharing stories and getting caught up with our boating friends. We all knew this would be our last on-the-water event for the year. Perhaps it was with this thought in mind that we stayed a little longer, repeated our "goodbyes" and cruised back down the lake a little bit slower, just to make this perfect day last as long as possible; it's always harder going back home.

CHILI COOK-OFF AND A TRIP TO ALASKA

Submitted by Carol Jordan

James and Jan Dennison again opened their home to the Atlanta Sail and Power Squadron to host the annual Chili Cook-off. Forty members and guests sampled five pots of various chili recipes and found them all to range from delicious to unusual, but all were readily consumed. The one pot to be totally scraped out also turned out to be the number one-rated Chili recipe, created by Nan Putnam. Second place went to the Pfaff's and third place was split between the Leathers and the Haas.

Mike Schneider educated and entertained us with his exploits and experiences on his solo trip from Canada through Alaska in his boat "Stingray" - the sequel to the presentation he gave at last year's event. It's hard to scale down a six-week expedition of this magnitude into an hour presentation, but Mike managed to keep everyone interested in his slides with his running banter and witty commentary.

The Ladies of the Auxiliary are once again to be thanked for their help in making this year's Cook-Off such a success. Thank you everyone!

Glenn LaBoda, currently in the Junior Navigator class, takes sightings on the sun at Amelia Island. Who says these classes aren't fun?



???OCTOBER PUZZLER ???

Mr. Gray, Mr. Black and Mr. White are on the same dock. Each have boats that are the colors of their last names, although no man's boat color matches his name. Mr. Gray asks the man with the white boat if he likes Black, but cannot hear his answer. What is the color of each man's boat?

Answer: Mr. Gray does not have a gray or white boat. Therefore it has to be black. Mr. White's boat can't be white, so it must be gray. That leaves Mr. Red with the white boat.

From the Bridge



THE 2007 BRIDGE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2007

SQUADRON OFFICERS

Commander	Frank Taylor, Jr.	commander@usps-atlanta.org
Executive Officer	David Herndon	xo@usps-atlanta.org
Administrative Officer	Carol Jordan	admin@usps-atlanta.org
Secretary	Jeff Batson	secretary@usps-atlanta.org
Education Officer	Patti Price	edu@usps-atlanta.org
Treasurer	Sheryl LaBoda	treasurer@usps-atlanta.org

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Cdr Frank Taylor, Jr., Chairman
Lt/C David Herndon, Vice Chairman

Jeff Batson	Charlie Cox	Carol Jordan
Sheryl LaBoda	Bob Leathers	Hans Meier
Patti Price	Kevin Schoonover	Margaret Sherrod
Tim Tyson	Patti Watson	Jeff Wise
Matt Wise		



Cdr. Frank Taylor



Lt/C David Herndon
Executive Officer



Lt/C Carol Jordan
Administrative Officer



Lt/C Patti Price
Education Officer



Lt/C Sheryl LaBoda
Treasurer



Lt/C Jeff Batson
Secretary

NOMINATIONS FOR 2008 BRIDGE

In accordance with our bylaws, the annual meeting and election of officers and elected committees will take place on Thursday, 17 January 2008 at the Norcross Jocks and Jills Sports Grill (7160 Jimmy Carter Blvd, Norcross). The Change of Watch will take place Sunday, 17 February 2008 at the Ashford Club (5565 Glenridge Connector NE, Atlanta). The Atlanta Sail & Power Squadron Nominating Committee, consisting of P/C Margaret M. Sherrod, P/C Jeffrey D. Wise and P/C Hans A. Meier II, has submitted the following slate of officers for 2008

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2008

SQUADRON OFFICERS

Commander	David B. Herndon
Executive Officer	Carol H. Jordan
Administrative Officer	Kevin G. Schoonover
Secretary	Jeffrey R. Batson
Treasurer	Margaret H. Haas
Education Officer	Patricia T. Price
Asst. Education Officer	Patrick J. McGrath
Asst. Secretary	Vacant
Asst. Treasurer	Julia S. Haas

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

David B. Herndon, Chair
Carol H. Jordan, Vice Chair

Jeffrey R. Batson	Jonathan Blackwood
Charles F. Cox	Margaret H. Haas
Sheryl K. LaBoda	Michael Litke
Patrick J. McGrath	Patricia T. Price
Kevin G. Schoonover	Margaret M. Sherrod
Frank A. Taylor, Jr.	Timothy F. Tyson
Douglas G. Watson	

GENERAL COMMITTEES

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

P/C Frank A. Taylor	3 Years
P/C Margaret M. Sherrod	2 Years
P/C Jeffrey D. Wise	1 Year

RULES COMMITTEE

P/C Frank A. Taylor	3 Years
P/C Margaret M. Sherrod	2 Years
P/C Jeffrey D. Wise	1 Year

AUDIT COMMITTEE

Chm: Lt. Jonathan Blackwood
Lt. Brian P. Jernigan

If any member who has not been nominated desires to run for any of the open positions, he or she may be nominated by petition in writing signed by at least five active members in good standing. Such petition must be in the hands of the Squadron Secretary, Lt/C Jeffrey R. Batson, no later than 2 January 2008. No nominations from the floor will be allowed unless all nominees for the position withdraw or the position is vacant.

The Bulletin Board

If you would like to see minutes of the Executive Committee meetings, you can signup at:
Http://groups.yahoo.com/group/aspsusps/

Please provide your certificate number when making your request to joint this Yahoo Group

CHANGES IN MEETING LOCATION

General Membership Meeting will be back at Jock's and Jill's Restaurant at 7160 Jimmy Carter Blvd. in Norcross, GA

Check out the latest District 17 Newsletter at <http://www.usps-d17.org>

Mark the dates!

USPS Annual Meeting in Dallas—Feb 19-24, 2008

D17 Spring Conference in Chattanooga March 7-9, 2008

See you at the Seafarer's Ball! December 22 at Kurt's!

Verify your details in the current roster and send any changes to Jeff Batson for the 2008 Roster. Send email changes to the Waterlog editors!

Waterlog Thanks!
 Thanks to this month's contributors!
 Patti Price
 Roy Stegall
 Kevin Schoonover
 Margaret Sherrod
 Carol Jordan
 Douglas Townes

USPS EVENTS: DECEMBER 2007

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 Parade of Lights (?)
2	3 Auxiliary lunch	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13 Excomm Mtg	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22 Seafarers Ball
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

USPS EVENTS: JANUARY 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7 Winter classes begin	8	9	10 Excomm Mtg	11	12
13	14 Chartsmart begins	15	16	17 Annual Membership Mtg	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

LOCATION CHANGE: General Membership Meeting at Jock's and Jill's Restaurant at 7160 Jimmy Carter Blvd. in Norcross, GA

LOCATION CHANGE: ExComm Meetings at ALDO's on Roswell Road at Hammond Drive



Life on the Water

DANGER CIRCLES

By Douglas Townes

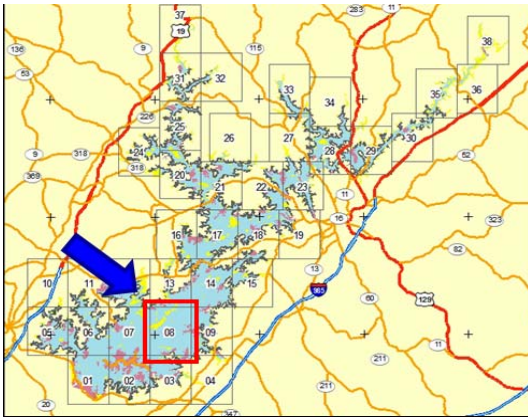
Since Lake Lanier is at historically low levels, I thought I would discuss “danger circles”. Due to the hazards that are now above water in Lake Lanier, this is a historical opportunity to mark some of these hazards with a “danger circle”. When the water level is restored, your paper charts and GPS will now have that “personal” knowledge recorded for you and your crew to pay special attention to.

Here is how the US Power Squadron defines a “danger circle”

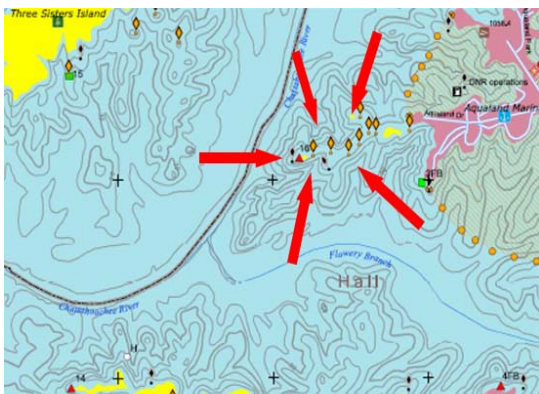
Danger Circle:

A charted circle centered on a feature, landmark or waypoint that is established to help the helmsman avoid hazards within the circle. Using GPS, an alarm can be set.

Let’s look at chart #8 of the Lake Lanier Charts:



Now let's look at the hazards between Aqualand Marina and the entrance to Flowery Branch.



Most of us are very familiar with this area because we go by this area on many of our cruises. Notice the red arrows I have inserted to highlight the area that is currently **all above ground**.

You can mark this area with a waypoint and set up a danger circle. Most GPS’s have the capability to set up a “proximity alarm” around a waypoint. A “proximity alarm” is another way to say “set up an alarm that will sound when you get to within a certain distance (that you select) or “proximity” of some object.”

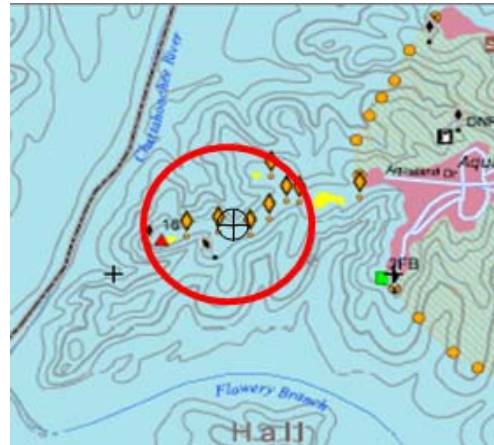
1. Using the waypoint function select a point near the middle of the hazard you intend to mark.

2. Mark this as a waypoint.

3. Go to “menu” for this waypoint and select “properties”.

4. Select “proximity alarm”. You will be prompted to set the radius (distance) of the circle. Select the radius that covers the hazards you want to avoid. Then select “on” or “off”.

5. If you selected “on”, an alarm will sound when you intrude inside this danger circle.



Marking the hazards that are clearly above water during this historically low water period for Lake Lanier is prudent. While doing this, **extreme caution** must be exercised as many more hazards are just below the surface. If you have not winterized your boat yet and plan to get out on

Lake Lanier, take a few moments to mark some exceptionally hazardous areas in your cruising area. Again let me remind you to use **extreme caution** (near idle speed when not in the center channel) as the lake is very dangerous at its current level. You and your crew will be appreciative that you marked these hazards when Lake Lanier returns to normal pool level in the future.

Remember, safe boating knowledge is not a destination it is a journey.



In case you thought Santa wasn't a boater....



Life on the Water

AN UPDATE FROM THE LIVE-ABOARDS

*By Mary & Roy Stegall
aboard S/V "Gideon"*

November. This is our fifth month living aboard. We've become well acclimatized to it; safe and secure here in the marina, very comfortable. Perhaps too comfortable? Living at Burnt Store marina is almost like being in Disneyland, with all of the landscaping. It's beautiful. But, we bought the boat to go cruising, not to be marina queens.

We've tried to get out day sailing once a week; that has gradually slipped to once or twice a month. There's always something to do on the boat. We're not bored, but time slips by. The marina is like a womb... warm and safe.

One afternoon, Mary's dad, "Pops", joined us for a day cruise. The wind picked up to over 20 knots. The boat was playfully romping along at 7 knots boat speed, with all three sails set. FUN! Island Packets are stiff and love a fresh breeze.



Roy and Mary return from shopping via their dinghy



Mary at the helm of Gideon

We're not alone in being "stuck" in the marina. Of the 5 live-aboard boats on our dock, there are a variety of stories. One boat has not moved from the dock in three years. Another has made two sailing trips in the past two years, for a couple of weeks each time. And, there's a crotchety old bachelor who has been out day sailing twice in five months. There is almost a magnetic attraction to stay in the marina, for those who can afford it. Stay home. Stay safe. Stay comfortable. It's too much trouble to go out.

The big news this month is a happy reunion with our friends the Taylors. David and Susan are completing their ASA Bareboat certification through Windsong Sailing Academy with a charter trip here in Charlotte Harbor. We first met on a similar trip almost a year ago.

Nature is all around us. Even in the marina. Do you hear snorting outside? Maybe the manatees are visiting. I can't believe they come into the dirty water in the marina, but they do.

We've made lots of new friends, and we've enjoyed the camaraderie with other couples here in the marina. There's a whole new social scene among the live-aboards. You instantly have rapport with your common live style choice.

December will be our final month in port for a while as we provision the boat and say goodbye to family over Christmas. Our family will join us on the boat, and we've rented a small condo for a few days. They're all curious about what we're doing! The kids and grandparents will visit, see the boat, and we'll go sailing and anchor out for at least one night. After Christmas we'll send our vehicle back to Atlanta for storage, and we'll be without a car. We'll set sail "cruising" within a day or so afterwards; December 28th or 29th.

Did I mention being without a car? That's the only part left that bothers me. It's proof again that this is like a second childhood. We're now regressing to before-having-wheels. Aaaarrgh! NO WHEELS!!! Our plan is to test Enterprise Rent-A-Car's motto "We'll pick you up" when we need to go somewhere by land.

The boat is in great shape. Mary and I have refinished the brightwork. I've replaced all of the bad hoses and other items flagged in the survey. We've bought additional safety equipment for off-shore sailing; jacklines, tethers, and harnesses.

It's time to leave the nest. We've set a deadline for ourselves of the end of December. We'll cut the dock lines and go! South along Florida's west coast, then the Keys, then north along the east coast in the spring. **NEXT MONTH.... WE'RE OUTTA HERE !!**



AFTerthoughts

THE MOST WONDERFUL TIME OF YEAR....

By David Herndon

Happy Holidays!

As the song says, "it's the most wonderful time of the year." Despite the challenges of a vanishing lake, the holidays always make me feel good about what has happened during the year past, and what we have to look forward to in the coming new year.

This year has been full and productive. A fabulous five days along the Gulf ICW, raft-ups and beach parties throughout the summer including a visit from our sister squadron at Lake Murray, a great weekend on the Tennessee River, strong participation in our education program, more than 30 new members, and over 70 vessel safety checks – whew! We've been busy. Take a minute to thank the leaders. We can look forward to more of the same in 2008 – with the added challenge of a shrinking lake.

It's easy to whine about the lousy boating conditions and all the

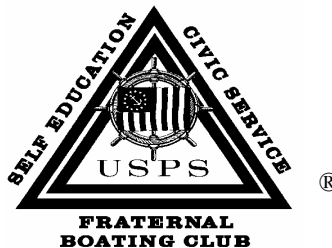
inconveniences caused by the low water levels in Lake Lanier. Unfortunately, whining doesn't seem to help the situation much – at least it hasn't helped so far. It seems that the more I rant and complain about it, the faster the water disappears. I should try to focus on more productive uses for my energy - but I probably won't.

It's fun – and sad - to watch the incredible juggling act going on at our marina as boats and docks are moved about like pieces on a chessboard to try and keep everything afloat. It has become something of an adventure every time we go to the lake as we try to find our boat. (And having had some previous experience with missing boats, the laughter we share is sometimes the nervous type.) Our marina manager deserves a lot of credit for keeping everything off the mud so far, and I'm sure his counterparts at the other marinas are doing a similar job.

Despite the falling water levels, we had a really good year. I'm confident that 2008 will bring fond memories as well.

Again, happy holidays – and happy boating!

David and Lisa Herndon
1332 Cambridge Ct. NE
Atlanta, GA 30319



STAMP

